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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that the correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: February 23, 2007 Name: Tadashi Horie (Reg. No. 40,437) Signature:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Nobuyuki WATANABE et al.

Appln. No.: 10/509,545

Filed: September 24, 2004

For: DISTRIBUTION METHOD,
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, AND
TERMINAL DEVICE

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Art Unit: 3621

Attorney Docket No: 9683/205

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

- ☒ Transmittal (in duplicate); Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement; Form PTO-1449; Copy of Chinese Office Action (D1)
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ Small Entity.
- ☐ An extension fee in an amount of \$_____ for a _____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
- ☐ A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$_____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(_____).
- ☐ An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity			Not a Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$25=			x \$50=	
Indep.		Minus			x 100=			x \$200=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$180=			+\$360=	
					Total	\$		Total	\$

Fee payment:

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$_____. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
- ☐ Payment by credit card in the amount of \$_____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,

February 23, 2007
Date

Tadashi Horie (Reg. No. 40,437)



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THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and more particularly in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), Applicant hereby cites the following reference:

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Chinese Office Action dated December 1, 2006

Applicant is enclosing Form PTO-1449 (one sheet), along with a copy of each listed reference for which a copy is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2). Reference D1 is an Office Action issued in the counterpart Chinese application. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's consideration of the above reference and entry thereof into the record of this application.

By submitting this Statement, Applicant is attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other information referred to therein, constitutes "prior art" or is otherwise "material to patentability," as that phrase is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

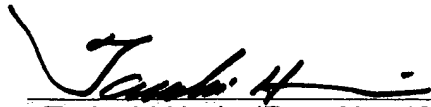
Applicant has calculated no fee to be due in connection with the filing of this Statement. However, the Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency associated

with the filing of this Statement to a deposit account, as authorized in the Transmittal accompanying this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

February 23, 2007

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tadashi Horie", written over a horizontal line.

Tadashi Horie (Reg. No. 40,437)

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. Box 10395
Chicago, IL 60610
(312) 321-4200



FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/509,545	CASE NO. 9683/205
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	FILING DATE September 24, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT 3621
APPLICANT(S): Nobuyuki WATANABE et al.		

REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS (Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	
	D1	Chinese Office Action dated December 1, 2006

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.